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Tentative Statement of Policy for Feed and Livestock

(To be revised after October conferences with State War Boards)

The total supply of concentrate feed for the year beginning October 1, 1943, after allowing for minimum carryovers a year later, will be about five percent less than the quantity actually fed last year. The quantity of feed grains available for feeding, beginning October 1, 1943, is expected to be between five and ten percent less than the quantity fed during the past twelve months and the quantity of wheat may also be slightly less. The total supply of protein meals and other high protein feeds should be three to five percent more.

On the other hand, the number of livestock and poultry on farms January 1, 1944 will be about ten percent larger. Therefore, in order to maintain the largest practical balanced production of livestock and poultry, our prospective feed supplies will have to be distributed and utilized with a great deal more care than usual.

To bring our animal population and our feed supplies in balance, hogs will need to be marketed at average weights rather than at the heavy weights of the last two years; more dependence will need to be placed on roughage for cattle and sheep; shorter and lighter feeding of beef cattle is desirable; heavier culling of poultry flocks, and all-round better care and management of our livestock and poultry are important factors. Furthermore, it is necessary, because of feed supplies, to level off hog farrowings and broilers raised in 1944 at about the 1942 levels.

If we use our available feed supplies as efficiently as we did in the years immediately preceding 1943, rather than as we did in 1943 when we used eight percent more feed per unit of livestock and poultry products produced, they should be sufficient to maintain or slightly increase milk production; maintain egg production at the 1943 level; feed out fifteen to twenty percent more cattle, but to weights slightly below average and to good grades rather than choice and prime grades; feed out the 1943 spring and fall pig crops to average weights; start a spring crop equal to that of 1942; raise as many broilers as in 1942 and about as many turkeys and ducks as in 1943; and feed out the same number of sheep and lambs as in 1943. For beef cattle, sheep and lambs, and to a lesser extent dairy cattle, as much reliance as possible will need to be placed upon roughage and pasture.

In order to maintain these levels of livestock and poultry production, feed processors, feed mixers and feed dealers should distribute, and farmers, themselves, should utilize the available supplies in the following manner:

1. For dairy cattle, including replacement stock, sufficient feed to maintain milk production at not less than the 1942-43 level.
2. For laying flocks, sufficient feed to maintain egg production at the 1942-43 level. (Note: The number of hens and pullets now on farms is at a level that would produce five to ten percent more eggs next year than last if sufficient feed were available.)

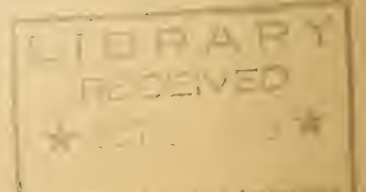
3. For range cattle, sufficient feed, particularly protein supplements in the form of cake or pellets, to maintain ninety-five percent of the number maintained last year.
4. For cattle feeding, sufficient feed to feed out to weights of five percent below average and to good grade only, fifteen percent more feeder cattle than last year. (Note: With heavier reliance on roughage, this should not require any more concentrates than the quantity used last year.)
5. For hogs, sufficient feed to finish out to normal market weights the 1943 spring and fall pig crops and to raise a 1944 spring crop the same size as that in 1942. (Note: This will mean farrowings next spring about twenty percent below those of the spring of 1943 and average weights about twenty-five pounds less than average market weights in 1943.)
6. For broilers, sufficient feed to raise eighty percent of the broilers raised in 1943.
7. For turkeys and ducks, sufficient feed to raise ninety-five percent of the number raised in 1943.
8. For chickens, other than broilers, sufficient feed to raise ninety-five percent of the number raised last year.
9. For sheep and lambs, sufficient feed to maintain the present numbers and feeding operations.

Processors and jobbers of protein meal and cake, of meat scrap, of mill feeds, and of other high protein feeds, are requested to assume responsibility for distributing the same proportions of their production to large feed mixers, to small feed mixers, to dealers for resale, and to farmers direct as they sold in the feeding year beginning October 1, 1941; and to distribute their products so as to contribute to the pattern of livestock and poultry production set forth above.

All feed mixers are requested to use their mixed feed ingredients to manufacture the kinds and amounts of mixed feeds designed to implement the above livestock and poultry program.

All feed dealers are requested to distribute their feed supplies--including feed grains, protein supplements and mixed feeds--in a similar manner to producers.

Finally, farmers are requested to use their home grown or purchased grains, their purchased high protein concentrates, and their purchased mixed feeds so as to attain as nearly as possible the desired distribution of livestock and poultry production as set forth above.



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